

Orange Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Town Hall Meeting Room—7:30 p.m. Wednesday September 27, 2023

Approved

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners Present: Chairman James O'Connor, Deborah Davis, Dan Zapatka, Chuck

Stackpole, Jack Pritchard, and Stephen Bespuda

Commissioners Absent: James Ronai and William Nicoletti

<u>Staff</u>: Stephanie Middleton, Summer Day Camp Director; Deborah Satonick, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

• Chairman O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and asked the members to introduce themselves. He advised that Mr. Lynch is not in attendance as he is at an award ceremony in Southington on behalf of his wife, who was named "Volunteer of the Year."

2. PUBLIC DIALOGUE

• There was no public dialogue at this time.

3. MINUTES – August 23, 2023

Mr. Bespuda made a motion to approve the August 23, 2023 Parks and Recreation minutes, seconded by Ms. Davis. All were in favor, with Mr. Bespuda abstaining. The motion <u>PASSED</u>.

4. OLD BUSINESS

• As Mr. Lynch was absent, there was no old business to discuss at this time.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. <u>Summer Day Camp 2023 Report</u> – Stephanie Middleton

• Ms. Middleton gave a brief presentation on Summer Camp and she received accolades from the Commission members for the great job she did. Chairman O'Connor also acknowledged all the other staff members who contributed to the success of camp. Ms. Middleton advised that as she hired additional staff, children were taken from the waitlist to enroll in Summer Camp. Online registration went well, as did Traveling Teens. All the field trips went well without incident.

B. Grounds and Facilities – Mr. Bespuda_

• Mr. Bespuda discussed the purchase of an ice-skating rink for High Plains Fairgrounds. He sent out an email to the Commission members detailing this purchase request and Chairman O'Connor suggested that a motion be made accordingly. Mr. Pritchard noted that there might be a reoccurring charge of \$400 annually to purchase a new liner.

Mr. Bespuda made a motion to allocate \$6k from the High Plains rental line items to purchase an ice-skating rink for High Plains Fairgrounds. Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion and all were in favor. The motion PASSED.

• Lastly, Mr. Bespuda mentioned that the screens for the tennis courts are still on backorder and the Fred Wolfe Park playground is officially open to the public.

C. Personnel - Mr. O' Connor

• The crew is beginning their fall work as the leaves are beginning to drop.

D. Budget

• There were no questions or concerns on the budget at this time.

E. Director's Report

• In the absence of Mr. Lynch, Mr. O'Connor read the Director's Report, the Program Report, and the Aquatic Report into the record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

• Mr. O'Connor is expecting that Phase One of the development of Fred Wolfe Park will be available by next summer. He feels that this is a great property that will be properly developed overtime. He added that Mr. Hoffman has been an advocate for safe traffic flow at Fred Wolfe Park and the planning committee is attentive to his concerns.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bespuda made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Pritchard. All were in favor and the motion <u>PASSED</u>.

Respectfully Submitted, Deborah Satonick Recording Secretary